

Message Text

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJ: SCANDAL DEVELOPMENTS (LOCKHEED CASE): FIRST ARREST

WARRANTS AND VAGUE INSINUATIONS CONCERNING PRESIDENT LEONE

1. PRESS HAS GIVEN HEAVY PLAY TO ISSUING OF ARREST WARRANTS AGAINST OVIDIO LEFEBVRE D'OVIDIO AND MARIA FAVA. THE TWO ARE CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT AGGRAVATED CORRUPTION OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS IN LINE OF DUTY (ARTICLES 110 AND 319 OF PENAL CODE). BOTH OF THE ACCUSED ARE BELIEVED TO BE OUTSIDE OF ITALY AND PRESS DOUBTS THEY WILL RETURN. FAVA WAS THE SOLE DIRECTOR OF THE FIRM COM. EL WHICH IS REPORTED TO HAVE RECEIVED ABOUT 70 MILLION LIRE FROM LOCKHEED. L'ESPRESSO REPORTS THAT MISS FAVA WAS BUT A FRONT FOR THE LEFEBRES. THAT MAGAZINE ALSO REPORTS THAT SIMILAR CHARGES ARE BEING HELD IN ABEYANCE AGAINST THE ELDEST LEFEBVRE BROTHER ANTONIO WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE IN ITALY AND WHO IS EXPECTED TO PRESENT HIMSELF SOON FOR EXAMINATION.

2. IN THE TIME-HONORED ITALIAN JOURNALISTIC TRADITION OF GUILT BY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT LEONE HAS NOW BEEN DRAGGED INTO THE LOCKHEED MUD--SORT OF. L'ESPRESSO IN EDITION FOR WEEK OF FEB. 22 DEVOTES TWO PAGES TO DESCRIPTION OF LONGSTANDING FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN ANTONIO LEFEBVRE AND GIOVANNI LEONE. THEY WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER IN NAPLES, BARI AND ROME AND THEN AFTER THE WAR THE TWO OF THEM AS YOUNG GOVERNMENT LAWYERS WROTE THE NEW

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ITALIAN MARITIME CODE. LEFEBVRE ENRICHED HIMSELF AS LEGAL CONSULTANT SPECIALIZING IN MARITIME AFFAIRS AND HIGHLY-PLACED

FRIENDS WHILE LEONE WENT INTO POLITICS. ACCORDING TO L'ESPRESSO HIS FRIENDS HAVE INCLUDED LEONE, THE DINO GRANDI WHO TOPPLED MUSSOLINI IN 1943, TANASSI, EINAUDI (EGAM), BERNADEI (EX RAI) CROCAINI (FINMECCANICA) MINO (CARABINIERI) AMBASSADORS TASCA AND VOLPE, CIA OFFICIALS WALTERS AND THE LATE CARMEL OFFIE, THE BROTHER OF GISCARD D'ESTAING AND GABRIELE BENINCASA-- REPUTEDLY ANOTHER INTIMATE OF LEONE'S WHO REPORTEDLY WAS ONCE THE EMPLOYER OF MARIA FAVA. IN THIS ARTICLE LEONE'S ONLY CRIME IS YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP WITH ANTONIO LEFEBVRE, WHO LIKEWISE--FOR THE TIME BEING--IS ONLY GUILTY OF ASSOCIATION WITH HIS BROTHER OVIDIO, ETC.. VOLPE

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